



## NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2012

**Contact:**

[Ted Thomas](#), Information Officer  
[Elizabeth Scott](#), Information Officer

(916) 653-9712  
(916) 712-3904

### **DWR Awarded Top Honors for Central Valley Flood Protection Plan**

**SACRAMENTO** -- Western flood management experts will recognize the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Wednesday for its comprehensive plan to protect lives and property in the Central Valley.

At its annual conference, held this week in Sacramento, the Floodplain Management Association will give its "Award for Excellence" to DWR for its Central Valley Flood Protection Plan. The association's members work to reduce flood damages through planning and infrastructure.

Required by 2008 legislation, the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan was written by DWR's Division of Flood Management. The plan describes a comprehensive framework for improving public safety, ecosystem conditions, and economic sustainability while recognizing the financial challenges facing local, state and federal government agencies.

The plan and its program environmental impact report will receive the association's top honor during a noon luncheon at the four-day Flood Management Association conference.

Judges from the association praised the plan as "forward-thinking" and said it will have "multiple benefits on a broad, regional scale including flood protection and mitigation, environmental protection and enhancement, and smart fiscal management."

Development of the plan is a part of the FloodSAFE California Initiative, launched by DWR in 2006 to address the increasing flood risks throughout California.

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board, charged with reducing flood risk along the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and tributaries, will share the "Award for Excellence" during the presentation. The Board unanimously approved the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan in June.

The Floodplain Management Association's 2012 Annual Conference is under way through Friday, September 7, at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento, 1209 L Street. The association serves as an unbiased forum to advance best practices, technologies, policies, regulations, and legal and financing strategies, with a focus on California, Nevada and Hawaii.

On Friday, all sessions are open and free to the public, including a session focused on Central Valley Flood Protection Plan implementation. Afterwards, the public is invited to visit DWR's Integrated Water Management public poster session and talk with various managers. This event features posters illustrating many aspects of DWR's work, including flood emergency operations, floodway ecosystem sustainability, and regional partnership.

For more information on FMA and the conference, visit <http://www.floodplain.org/>.

-30-

---

*The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.*